(b) and (c) The CBI, Delhi Branch which is investigating into this case had indicated that one retired Chief Petty Officer and a few civilian clerks of Naval Headquarters used to prepare forged duplicate/ supplementary telephone bills against Naval Headquarters telephones in connivance with MTNL staff on printed MTNL forms. These bills were processed in the normal manner and cheques issued in favour of MTNL against payment of Naval Headquarters telephone bills listed in the contingent bill. The cheque alongwith contingent bill mentioning the Naval Headquarters telephone numbers were used and presented to MTNL and MTNL receipt on the contingent bill duly obtained for the Naval Headquarters. From the initial scrutiny of the records of Naval Headquarters, the CBI has seized suspected bogus bills/documents from 1991 onwards totalling Rs. 44 lakhs approximately. The CBI have arrested two civilian clerks working in Naval Headquarters & one retired Chief Petty Officer of the Navy. Besides, one MTNL employee & eight private persons have been arrested by CBI. As on 24.7.97 five accused persons are still in judicial custody.

(d) and (e) The CBI, Delhi, Branch has already registered a criminal case against the accused persons.

(f) A tenure of an Officer/Sailor at Naval Headquarters is restricted to a period of 3 to 5 years, and two years respectively. However, in exceptional cases, special dispensation is given keeping the requirement of Service in mind.

Canon Bofors Shells

772. SHRI MANGAL RAM PREMI : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that five live canon Bofors shells were found in a coal wagon recently in Delhi;

(b) if so, whether any investigation into the matter has been made and if so, the findings thereof; and

(c) the further action taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) to (c) Five containers carrying propellant charges and not live shells were found in coal wagons at Badarpur Thermal Power Station. The matter has been investigated. The Court of Inquiry has concluded that the theft of containers took place due to negligence in performance of Escort Duty by the Escort Party and has recommended action against them as well as against those responsible for non-compliance of instructions relating to despatch of ammunition and detainment of guard. The findings have ruled out wilful sabotage or involvement of anti-nationals. Disciplinary action as recommended by the Court of Inquiry is in hand.

Defence Accommodation

773. SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH :
SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some civilian occupants of Defence in married accommodation of Delhi Station Headquarters have been issued notices for eviction on the ground of temporary allotment;

(b) if so, the details of each allotments made between May, 1993 to September, 1995 and their date of cancellations, if any; and

(c) the validity of notices issued by the Estate Officer, though these allotment do not fall in the definition of temporary allotment as per Public Premises Eviction Act, 1971?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A Statement is enclosed.

(c) The accommodation was allotted on temporary basis on specific requests from the individuals for specific period on expiry of which the concerned person was supposed to vacate the accommodation. The competent authority issued show cause notice for vacation of the houses under Section 4 and Section 7 of Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Act, 1971.